

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND
DECORATORS PENSION, WELFARE, SAVINGS,
APPRENTICESHIP, SCHOLARSHIP, AND JOINT
COOPERATION TRUST FUNDS,

Plaintiffs,

V.

ROCK-IT DRYWALL SERVICE, INC., an Illinois corporation,

Defendant.

No.

Judge

FILED: JUNE 26, 2008

08CV3651

JUDGE ASPEN

MAGISTRATE JUDGE BROWN

AEE

COMPLAINT

Plaintiffs, TRUSTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS AND DECORATORS PENSION, WELFARE, SAVINGS, APPRENTICESHIP, SCHOLARSHIP AND JOINT COOPERATION TRUST FUNDS, by their attorneys, DONALD D. SCHWARTZ, JAMES R. ANDERSON, ANTHONY B. SANDERS, and ARNOLD AND KADJAN, complain against the Defendant, **ROCK-IT DRYWALL SERVICE, INC. (“ROCK-IT”)**, as follows:

COUNT I

Jurisdiction and Venue

1. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to Section 301 of the National Labor Relations Act, as amended, 29 U.S.C. 185(a), and Section 502 of the Employee Retirement Security Act (ERISA) of 1974, as amended, 29 U.S.C. Section 1132(e)(1), 1145 and 28 U.S.C. Section 1331.

2. The Northern District of Illinois is the proper venue pursuant to 29 U.S.C. Section

1132(e) as the Plaintiffs Funds are administered here in this judicial district.

The Parties

3. The Plaintiffs are the Trustees of the Chicago Painters and Decorators Pension, Welfare, Savings, Apprenticeship, Scholarship, and Joint Cooperation Trust Funds (“the Funds”), and have standing to sue pursuant to 29 U.S.C. Section 1132(d)(1).

4. The Funds have been established pursuant to Collective Bargaining Agreements previously entered into between the Painters’ District Council No. 14 and its affiliated locals (the “Union”), and certain employer associations whose employees are or were covered by one or more Collective Bargaining Agreements with the Union.

5. The Funds are maintained and administered in accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act, 29 U.S.C. Section 186 et. seq., and the Employee Retirement Security Act, 29 U.S.C. Section 1001, et. seq., and also pursuant to the terms and provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreements and Declarations of Trust (“Trust Agreements”) which established the Funds.

6. Defendant, **ROCK-IT DRYWALL SERVICE**. (“**ROCK-IT**”), an Illinois corporation, is an employer engaged in an industry affecting commerce. On or before, **ROCK-IT** entered into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Union (“Labor Agreement”) on or about July 13, 1989, whereby **ROCK-IT** agreed to be bound by the provisions of the Labor Agreement and any subsequent agreements negotiated between the Union and certain employer associations.

The Agreements

7. Pursuant to the provisions of the Labor Agreement, **ROCK-IT** is bound to the Trust Agreements and is required to make periodic contributions to the Funds for each hour worked by its

bargaining unit employees working within the occupational and jurisdictional scope described therein at the rate and in the manner specified by the Labor Agreement and the Trust Agreements. In addition, **ROCK-IT** is required to make contributions to the Funds measured by hours worked by subcontractors performing painters' or tapers' work who fail to make contributions to the Funds.

8. Under the terms of the Labor Agreement and Trust Agreements to which it is bound, **ROCK-IT** is required to submit all necessary books and records to Plaintiffs' auditor for the purpose of determining whether or not **ROCK-IT** is in compliance with its obligation to contribute to the Funds. In addition, the Labor Agreement and the Trust Agreements require **ROCK-IT** to pay liquidated damages, auditor fees, and all attorneys' fees and court costs incurred by the Funds in the collection process.

The Claim

9. **ROCK-IT** has breached the provisions of the Labor Agreement and Trust Agreements by failing to make all of the payments during the audit period from February 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007, in an amount not presently precisely ascertainable but, on information and belief, is at least \$6,901.99, plus amounts owed for unpaid accumulated liquidated damages, in an amount not presently precisely ascertainable but which, on information and belief, is at least \$1,982.06.

10. Pursuant to the provisions of the Labor Agreement and Trust Agreements, **ROCK-IT** is required to pay liquidated damages, auditor fees and all attorneys's fees and court costs incurred by the Funds in the collection process.

11. Plaintiffs have complied with all conditions precedent in bringing this suit.

12. Plaintiffs have been required to employ the undersigned attorneys to collect the

monies that may be found to be due and owing from **ROCK-IT**.

13. **ROCK-IT** is obligated to pay the attorneys' fees and court costs incurred by the Plaintiffs pursuant to the Labor Agreement, the Trust Agreements, and 29 U.S.C. Section 1132 (g)(D).

14. Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. Section 1132(g)(2)©), Plaintiffs are entitled to an amount equal to the greater of:

- (I) interest on the unpaid contributions; or
- (ii) liquidated damages provided for under the Trust Agreements not in excess of 20% of the amount that is due.

Relief Sought

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray for relief as follows:

A. That judgment be entered in favor of Plaintiffs and against **ROCK-IT** in the amount shown to be due on the audit and for any unpaid accumulated liquidated damages;

B. That Plaintiffs be awarded their costs herein, including audit costs, interest, reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs incurred in the prosecution of this action, together with liquidated damages in the amount of 20%, all as provided in the Labor Agreement and Trust Agreements and 29 U.S.C. Section 1132(g);

C. That **ROCK-IT** be enjoined from violating the terms of the Labor Agreement and Trust Agreements by failing to make timely payments to the Funds and to be ordered to resume making those payments;

D. That **ROCK-IT** be ordered to submit to discovery of corporate records and assets to determine if grounds exist to pierce the corporate veil and so obtain individual liability of the

officers of **ROCK-IT**;

E. That this Court retain jurisdiction of this matter to supervise enforcement of any resulting money judgment and further supplementary proceedings against **ROCK-IT** ;

F. That this Court grant Plaintiffs such other and further relief as it may deem appropriate under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

TRUTEES OF THE CHICAGO PAINTERS
AND DECORATORS PENSION FUND, et
al,

S/James R. Anderson
One of their Attorneys

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